

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 029912

FOR CONLIN FROM HUNT

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: AREC

SUBJECT: SAIGON RECREATION SHIPMENTS DIVERTED TO SINGAPORE

1. IN DECEMBER THE DEPARTMENT WAS INFORMED BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF SCAN DUTCH SHIPPING LINES, COPENHAGEN THAT A NUMBER OF SHIPMENTS WERE IN BONDED STORAGE IN SINGAPORE. THESE SHIPMENTS WERE INTENDED FOR THE SAIGON RECREATION ASSOCIATION. THE SHIPMENTS INCLUDE BILL OF LADING LO-289 DRAMBUIE - 20 CASES
BILL OF LADING LO-244 J&B SCOTCH - 75 CASES
BILL OF LADING LO-0305 DRAMBUIE - 50 CASES (48 CASES SHIPPED TO SAIGON, 2 REMAIN IN SINGAPORE
BILL OF LADING LO-0328 J&B SCOTCH - 80 CASES (52 CASES SHIPPED TO SAIGON, 28 REMAIN IN SINGAPORE.

2. WE HAVE BEEN ENDEAVORING TO CLOSE OUT AND TRANSFER THIS PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF THE SAIGON RECREATION ASSOCIATION BY TRANSFERRING THE CARGOES TO EMBASSY SINGAPORE WHICH HAS AGREED TO ACCEPT THE SHIPMENTS.

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3. WE HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SCAN-DUTCH SHIPPING

LINES WHO HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN RELEASE OF THE SHIPMENTS FROM BOTH J&B AND DRAMBUIE.

THE DEPARTMENT IS CONCERNED WITH MOUNTING STORAGE COSTS. J&B AND DRAMBUIE, WE UNDERSTAND, WANT THEIR MONEY BEFORE THEY RELEASE THE SHIPMENTS TO THE EMBASSY SINGAPORE.

4. IT IS FELT THAT YOU CAN BE INSTRUMENTAL IN BREAKING THIS LOG-JAM BY:

A. CALL THE SCAN;DUTCH REPRESENTATIVE IN LONDON, MR. BLUNDY, KELLER, BRYANT CO. LTD., TELEPHONE 01-481-8833 OR 8884 TO OBTAIN NAMES OF CONTACTS IN J&B AND DRAMBUIE.

B. CONTACT J&B AND DRAMBUIE AND INFORM THEM THAT THE SAIGON RECREATION ASSOCIATION GUARANTEES PAYMENT AND CHECKS HAVE BEEN FORWARDED.

C. THE ORIGINAL BILL OF LADING WERE LEFT IN SAIGON.

D. OBTAIN RELEASE OF THE GOODS FROM J&B AND DRAMBUIE ASAP TO EMBASSY SINGAPORE AND INFORM THEM BY CABLE, AND INFO DEPARTMENT.

5. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION TO THIS PROBLEM.

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